

**SOITEC SOLAR DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

**3800 12-010 (GPA); Tierra Del Sol, 3300 12-010 (MUP), 3600 12-005 (REZ),  
3921 77-046-01 (AP); Rugged Solar, 3300 12-007 (MUP); LanWest 3300 12-002  
(MUP); ENVIRONMENTAL LOG NO.: 3910 120005 (ER)**

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD**

**December 6, 2012 through January 7, 2013**

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET**

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

5510 OVERLAND AVENUE, SUITE 110

SAN DIEGO, CA 92123

**WRITTEN COMMENT FORM**

SEE ATTACHED LETTER

(Attach additional pages as needed)

**MAIL, FAX or E-MAIL FORMS TO:**

Robert Hingtgen  
County of San Diego  
Department of Planning & Development Services  
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 110  
San Diego, CA 92123  
FAX #: (858) 694-3373  
e-mail: [robert.hingtgen@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:robert.hingtgen@sdcounty.ca.gov)

Audra Burgio 1-6-13  
Signature Date

Audra Burgio  
Print Name

387163 AHA Vega Road  
Address

Barlevar, CA 91905  
City State Zip Code

(619) 766-4806  
Phone Number

**COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM, JANUARY 7, 2013**

1/5/2013

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Chris and Audra Burgio  
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Boulevard, CA 91905

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Mr. Robert Hingtgen,

My family and I have attended several planning board meetings and have been following many projects in our area, including the Soitec Solar Development on Tierra Del Sol. I served time on our planning board hoping to make a difference for our community to try to help the mass industrialization being proposed for our area, this project just being one of many. No one from any of these companies (Soitec, S.D.G&E, Tule Wind/Sierra Juarez Wind, Rugged Solar, LanWest, LanEast, Amonix Solar, Solar North America, Shu'luuk Wind Project, and Jewel Valley Wind just to name a few. NO one is hearing our cry to recognize the cumulative impacts to our area, I pray that by sending you this letter it is not just landing on deaf ears.

I was so frustrated by my time on the planning board and that no matter what we said, or who we said it to, that it never seemed to matter in the long run. The project builders have the money, people think that we are not densely populated and so they get approved. We spent years creating a general plan that protected our community from industrialization only to see our plan that had been approved by the county get gutted to that these projects can be pushed through. They even changed the definition of what industrial means! Can you believe it a word that has been in the dictionary for years now is being changed to suit the needs of these projects that are government funded on our tax dollar and would not be feasible any other way.

When speaking plainly to representatives who come to the meetings to speak about their projects and we confront them with the negative impacts they tell us that wind and solar are esthetically pleasing and a sign of the future of clean energy, that it will bring jobs to our area. We have found that they don't understand that everyone in our community has moved here to live in a rural area, so we don't have to see buildings, cars, wind turbines and solar panels everywhere. We like the quiet, the animals and the closeness of our community.

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We pay the price for this by purchasing larger pieces of land building on our own and driving far distances all the time to get to town. But we do it gladly for what we enjoy and how we want to live and raise our children. Then you have land owners such as parcels owned by Brown Family Trust (absentee) and Reynolds Family Trust who wish to build just for profit not really considering the impacts on the community because they don't actually live here. I am not against some growth in our area but to industrialize the area is not the answer. I have asked many of the representatives if they would purchase a property next to one of these projects and they say no, but will not recognize the decline in property value..of course not. How about living next to one? No comment .....which of course means no! When asking about our water table and fire dangers they are pretty much swept under the carpet, or a minor compensation like we will do a study. Many projects use the same test studies done by the people THEY pay. What kind of results do you think they are going to come up with. Well one that will comply with their project otherwise they would not get more jobs. We have had insurance companies come and give information to our community that we have shared with these companies. We already live in a high fire danger area and rate between a 7-9 on the fire risk scale. After many of these projects go in we not only will not be able to afford the increase in our insurance rate but simply may not be able to get it because they can deem us too much of a risk and not offer coverage. We have asked for a guarantee in regards to increased rates and nothing is being offered. These are all legitimate concerns and ones that you would raise if your family lived here. Thank you for listening and I truly hope that you will consider our community as a whole when looking at projects for our area and the over-all impact to our beautiful land and homes.

1. **Water:** The drilling of pedestals and panels will damage and crack the granite and aquifers. We rely on our water and wells for each home. Not only the construction but the washing of panels would drain the water table. We must protect our natural water sources so that we can all enjoy living here. What guarantees are we offered if our water runs dry or our wells are sanded?
2. **Rural Environment** – Up to 2,610 Soitec CXS530 Concentrating PV dual axis tracker units (with 12 super modules per tracker) ;new 3 acre step-up substation , new 138kV gen-tie line; new 4 acre O&M building; This across from and down the street from many people's homes, domestic animals and wildlife. The recent fires have naturally displaced many of our wildlife and have now concentrated them to more properties putting our domestic animals at risk and the decline in their natural habitat.
3. **Fire Danger** – The fire danger in our area is extreme and we are already paying for it with increased insurance rates and recently an additional \$150 fee per structure. We do not have adequate protection in our area. Our insurance rates will be increasing with every project in our area and we again may not be able to afford the increased rates but also may not even be able to get coverage at all. No guarantees are being made for our increased rates or access to insurance.

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4. Animal Habitat - We have so many projects in our small area that it is absolutely going to affect our wildlife population. I have gone through many pains to make sure that I do not negatively impact our area. Putting up owl boxes, not using poisons so my raptors do not get poisoned when they feed, not hunting in our area, putting out water troughs during drought months. We have seen in the last few years more unusual animals in our area such as a Mexican black Jaguars, Canadian geese landing in my pond (have photos) and golden eagles. They say there are studies and they have mapped the existing nests in our area but when I asked if there were any close to my area they said no. Others in the meetings have stated they have seen the eagles but to no avail. I have told them that I have seen them on my property although I have not been able to get photos other than the geese.
5. Electrical Pollution / Dirty Electricity / Stray Voltage: Dr. Martin Graham, an electrical researcher, described high frequency stray voltage as an ubiquitous pollutant. Impacted homes, offices, schools, livestock barns and operations, can become electrical conductors for ground currents of high frequency pollution/ harmonics dumped from the 60 Hz grid. Symptoms of exposure to high levels of spurious energy include chronic fatigue, fibromyalgia, cancer.
6. Glare and Reflectivity: many of the same issues with noise and light will apply to glare and reflectivity. These things are constant agitations to residents, wild life, and domestic animals. The effect on dark skies - the San Diego Astronomy Association is very close to this project and will affect the night sky.
7. Traffic: The increase in traffic activity will not only harm our roads but will increase the amount of wildlife being hit especially after they are displaced when their habitat has been destroyed. Even if you say that you are going to replant the entire area there will be a long period of displacement. We do have large predators in the area that use paths for their hunting range as well as deer and other animals they will have to re-route those paths.
8. Wind and Dust: The wind in our area on a consistent basis runs up to 70 miles an hour and sometimes more. When you take away the natural vegetation all at once you will extremely increase the wind and dust that is blown around. When driving one year I came into contact with a dust devil and it pitted my whole vehicle with the rocks and I was blinded for seconds but thankfully no one else was around and I didn't panic. These conditions are very real out here. Our environment is harsher than most people seem to realize and impacts our homes, vehicles and equipment shortening the life span of items if they were in another environment. What will the life span of this project really be calculating in the increased deterioration?

I hope again that you will consider these comments as well as many others from our community seriously and the overall cumulative impact to our homes and lifestyle.

Chris and Audra Burgio



1-6-13